



## Questionnaire for European Scout Region from 7th Eurosea

*In the European Scout Region we are keen to receive as much as possible regarding Sea Scouting in different countries, develop and improve the support for Sea Scout groups.*

*In order to do this, we need your help and active participation.*



1. *Country:* **Poland** - Polish Scouting & Guiding Association (ZHP)
2. *Is there a Sea Scout Leader at:*
  - National level - **YES** - called Komodor
  - Regional level - **YES** in 16 regions for 17 - called Pilot
  - District level - **YES**, but not in all districts - called Retman or Storman
3. *What is the number of Sea Scouts groups in Association - January 2003 - 216 they are as follows:*
  - Cub Packs (7-10) - **14**
  - Scout Groups (10-15) - **72**
  - Senior Scout Groups (15-25) - **54**
  - Multi age Groups - **54**
  - Other units - **22** (Sea Scouts Yacht Clubs, Sea Scout Leaders Circles...etc.)
4. *Is there a Sea Scout Programme well defined in ZHP?*
  - **YES** - but we are going to make some corrections connected with new Polish school system.
5. *If yes, what's it based upon?*
  - **"General" Scouts badge system** - the same for all ZHP
  - **"Specialised" training** in cooperation with other associations, mainly in:
    - **sailing** - we use sail training programme of Polish Yachting Association (PZZ)
    - **swimming & rescue** - we use programmes of Volunteer Water Rescue Association (WOPR)

6. *What is the structure of Sea Scouts in ZHP, and relationship with the leadership of ZHP*

- On each level of our association there are Sea Scouts Coordinators and their teams - see question 2 and *chart table in attachment*

7. *What are the main activities and projects Sea Scouts are implementing in ZHP?*

- **"MAS" - Off-shore Training Action**  
- org. by Sea Scouts Centre (CWM) in Gdynia - whole navigation season;
- **"AMAR" - Activities on Small Aquinas and Rivers**  
- organised by Silesian Region - whole navigation season;
- **National Scouts Swimming Competition**  
- organised by Bydgoszcz Region - April weekend in Bydgoszcz;
- **National Scouts Regatta in OMEGA class**  
- organised by Nowa Sol District - September weekend in Lubiatowo;
- **"Spartakiada" - Regional Sea Scouts Competition**  
- organised by Gdansk Region - September weekend in Puck;
- **CWM Commissioner's Cup** - national Sea Scouts regatta  
- org. by Sea Scouts Centre (CWM) in Gdynia - October weekend on Gdansk Bay;
- **"Szantowiazalka" Shanties and Maritime Songs Festival**  
- organised by Lodz-Polesie District - December weekend in Lodz;

8. *How would you evaluate the support recived from national (N) and regional (R) level*

- |                    |                |                 |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| • Activities       | R very good    | N very little,  |
| • Leaders training | R good         | N very little,  |
| • Group management | R good         | N very little,  |
| • Materials        | R satisfactory | N satisfactory, |
| • Communication    | R very good    | N very little,  |
| • Publications     | R satisfactory | N very little,  |
| • Image            | R very good    | N very good.    |

9. *How would you evaluate the resources available in ZHP*

- infrastructure and sailing equipment - very good,
- but management of this is - unsatisfactory,
- 90 year of tradition and experience - very good.

10. *How is the training scheme organised in ZHP for Sea Scout leaders?*

- general scheme - with 'land' scouts the same for all.

11. *What are the main challenges for Sea Scouting in ZHP?*

- to find 'common ground' on national level.

12. *Which are the main priorities for Sae Scouting in ZHP?*

- to set new standards for new ages;
- to set new economical rules in equipment management;
- to explore and promote Polish water ways;
- to support Sea Scouting in small towns and villages.

13. *In which areas do you expect the national level to support Sea Scouting in ZHP?*

- **Advanced leaders training;**
- **Communication and Information**  
- we are just finishing the project - [www.wodniacy.zhp.org.pl](http://www.wodniacy.zhp.org.pl)

14. How would you define the specificity of Sea Scouting regarding for following elements of the Scout method - how are they applied in Sea Scouting in ZHP?

- **Values**

our education is based on:

- traditional Scout values codified in **Law and Promise**,
- **maritime ethics**,
- **yachting etiquette**,
- and **sailors' superstitions**.

- **Patrol system**

average Scout Troop (drużyna) is about 20 Scouts divided into 3-4 Patrols (zastęp) in Sea Scouting called Watch (wachta). Scout Patrols work together whole year. In some of Troops Patrol = Boat Crew, also during navigation season, but in majority not.

- **Life in nature**

activities on rivers, lakes and sea makes Sea Scouting very attractive.

- **Progression scheme**

each Sea Scout makes progress through the activities in groups towards objectives proper for the given age and level:

- the Cubs - games based on maritime theme,
- the Scouts - nautical games and activities,
- the Seniors - sail training, yacht cruising, adventures.

- **Adult-youth relationship**

Sea Scouts leaders are in a difficult situation, because the adults are at the same time friends of the youth and their instructors in water activities. They are partners while playing and on the other hand they are superiors responsible for safety. This means that the leaders need management and psychological training.

- **Learning by doing**

In comparison to our yacht clubs in Sea Scouting we do prefer practice to theory. We know that is a longer way, but we believe that is better to find out by yourself e.g. why sailing boat moves, then to get a ready answer during a lecture.

15. If you would imagine a big project for Sea Scouting, what will it be?

- Idea of such a project was discussed at workshop on Eurosea 7

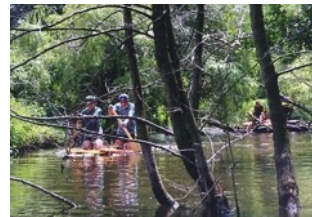
- *title:* **Water Ways of Europe**,
- *aim:* to describe European water ways,
- *priorities:* environment, culture, society, infrastructure... etc,
- *who:* Sea Scouts Groups in whole Europe,
- *when:* during 3-6 month,
- *how:* each Group organises in its region/country a hike, reconnaissance or meeting... etc finding an answer for one of priorities. After that they write a short report on it (A4 text + 5 pictures),
- *output:* web page, or publication presenting European water ways
- *advantages:* during short period of time we get interesting section through e.g. fisherman (their fishing methods, boats/ships, nets, fishes, situation... etc.) in 20 countries with very little budget only for advertisement before and collecting and publishing after.

16. What was the best Sea Scouts project you have ever participated in and where could one find more information about it?

- **MROGA-TROPHY** - open competition in rafting on funny-home-made-equipment on a small and wild river Mroga organised by Sea Scouts from Lodz-Polesie District - main points of success of this project are



engagement of local community (not only scouts), support of local authorities and Regional Yachting Association, and finally sponsorship (there is no fee for participants, but there are prizes for all). It was organised three times in first weekend of July 2001, 2002, 2003. More information on web page soon ;-)



17. What are the areas of interest for Sea Scouting in ZHP

- maritime **culture** and traditions
- shanties and maritime **songs**
- water and sea **society** - meetings with navy, fisherman, visiting harbours and shipyards
- **small rivers** - rowing hikes
- **rivers and lakes** - inland sail training, motorboat activities, sailing cruises
- **sea** - sail training, coastal and off-shore cruises

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